

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A cage assembly for housing a plurality of types of animals, the cage assembly comprising:

a cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls having recesses therein, a floor and an open top end, said floor having a length  $l$  and a width  $w$  wherein

$80 \text{ square inches} \leq l \times w \leq 110 \text{ square inches}$ ; and

a feeder assembly supported by the recesses in the side walls of the cage bottom  
to make constructed and arranged to adjust the height at which food and/or fluids  
is available to animals housed in an animal according to the species of the animal  
in the cage bottom.

2. (Original) The multipurpose rat cage of claim 1, wherein  $l \times w$  is substantially 80 square inches.

3. (Currently Amended) A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising a double sided rack, the rack having a depth;

at least one cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage

bottom having a plurality of integral side walls having recesses therein, a

floor and an open top, and the length of the cage being less than

substantially 18 inches; the cage further comprising a feeder assembly

supported by the recesses in the side walls of the cage bottom to make

constructed and arranged to adjust the height at which food and/or fluids is

available to animals housed in an animal according to the species of the  
~~animal in the cage bottom.~~

Claims 4-7 (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising:

a double sided rack, the rack having a depth; and  
a cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls having recesses therein, a floor and an open top, and the length of the cage being less than substantially 18 inches;  
wherein said cage bottom has a length l and a width w, and wherein  $80 \text{ square inches} \leq l \times w \leq 110 \text{ square inches}$ ; the cage further comprising a feeder assembly supported by the recesses in the side walls of the cage bottom to make ~~constructed and arranged to adjust the height at which~~ food and/or fluids ~~is available to~~ animals housed in an animal according to ~~the species of the animal in the cage bottom.~~

9. (Currently Amended) A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising:

a double sided rack, the rack having a depth; and

a cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls having recesses therein, a floor and an open top, and the length of the cage being less than substantially 18 inches, the cage further comprising a feeder assembly supported by the recesses in the side walls of the cage bottom to make ~~constructed and arranged to adjust the height at which food and/or fluids is~~ available to animals housed in an animal ~~according to the species of the animal in the cage bottom~~;

wherein said rack has a depth and said cage rests within said rack so that said length of said cage at least partially overlaps said depth of said rack and a portion of said cage extends beyond said rack, the portion having a length and the sum of the length of the portion and the depth of said rack is less than or equal to substantially 36 inches.

10. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 1, wherein the feeder comprises one or more selectively attachable components for adjusting the height of the feeder.

11. (Currently Amended) A cage assembly for housing a plurality of sizes of animals, the cage assembly comprising:

a feeder assembly having a flange; and

a cage bottom for housing an animal, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls having recesses therein being constructed and arranged to receive the flange of the feeder assembly ~~assemblies of different heights~~;

the cage bottom and feeder assembly working together to provide food and water to animals of different sizes.

12. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 11, wherein the feeder assembly comprises:

a frame;  
at least one support descending from said frame; and  
a pair of flanges extending from said frame to support said frame within said cage, said at least one support has an open lower end and further comprising a snap on bottom, said snap bottom being selectively connected to said lower end of said at least one support.

13. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 1, wherein the feeder assembly comprises:

a frame;  
at least one support descending from said frame; and  
a pair of flanges extending from said frame to support said frame within said cage, said at least one support has an open lower end and further comprising a snap on bottom, said snap bottom being selectively connected to said lower end of said at least one support.

14. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap on bottom has an upper lip extending there around, and having a channel extending around said lower end, said upper lip receiving said channel to connect said snap on bottom to said at least one support.

15. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 14, wherein said upper lip has a recess and said lower end has a tab, being received by said recess for locking said snap on bottom to said at least one support.

16. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap on bottom is a food container.

17. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap on bottom is a water bottle support.

18. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap-on bottom has an opening therein.

19. (Previously Presented) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap on bottom forms a flush surface with said at least one support.